

IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made. Please amend the claims as follows:

1 - 105. **(Cancelled)**

106. **(Currently Amended)** A method, comprising:

receiving, by a server located at a customer premises coupled to a local network by a controller embodied in one or more client premises devices, an indication from at least one gateway device to initiate a communications session between a dumb terminal coupled to the local network and a remote terminal coupled to an external Internet Protocol (IP) packet switched network using an Internet Protocol (IP) packet based network, the server comprising a network interface and a controller, the network interface coupled to the local network, the at least one gateway device coupled to the local network and the external IP packet switched network, the dumb terminal comprising a non-IP telephone;

generating, by the controller, an abstraction of at least one signaling message received from the dumb terminal by interpreting an intent of the at least one signaling message, the abstraction of the at least one signaling message comprising a description of the at least one signaling message based on the interpreted intent of the at least one signaling message;
[[and]]

translating, by the controller, the abstraction of the at least one signaling message; and
transmitting, by the server, the translated abstraction of the at least one signaling message to the at least one gateway device for presentation to the remote terminal, thereby establishing the communications session and facilitating a media stream path without the server between the dumb terminal and the remote terminal using the IP packet based network.

107. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 106, wherein the method employs an Internetwork Packet Exchange / Sequenced Packet Exchange (IPX/SPX) transport protocol.

108. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 106, wherein the remote terminal comprises a computer executing telephony software.

109. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 106, further comprising:
receiving, by the controller, a plurality of first packets generated at the remote terminal for presentation to the dumb terminal;
translating, by the controller, the received first packets into voice information for presentation to a user of the dumb terminal;
receiving, by the controller, voice activity from the user;
generating, by the controller, a plurality of second packets that represent the voice activity; and
transmitting, by the controller, the generated second packets to the at least one gateway device for presentation to the remote terminal.

110. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 106, ~~wherein receiving, by a controller embodied in one or more client premises equipment devices, an indication to initiate a communications session comprises~~ further comprising receiving, by the server, an off-hook signal in response to a user indicating a desire to establish the communications session.

111. **(Cancelled)**

112. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 106, wherein the at least one signaling message comprises an indication selected from the group consisting of:
a telephony off-hook event,
a telephony on-hook event,
a telephony button depressed event,
a telephony digit dialed event, and
a client registration event.

113. **(Currently Amended)** A server located at a customer premises coupled to a local network ~~A customer premises equipment device~~, comprising:

a processor; ~~[[and]]~~

a network interface coupled to the local network, the network interface operable to receive an indication from at least one gateway device to initiate a communications session between a dumb terminal coupled to the local network and a remote terminal coupled to an external Internet Protocol (IP) packet switched network, the at least one gateway device coupled to the local network and the external IP packet switched network; and

a storage device embodying a controller operable, when executed on the processor, to:
~~receive an indication to initiate a communications session between a dumb terminal and a remote terminal using a packet based network;~~

generate an abstraction of at least one signaling message received from the dumb terminal by interpreting an intent of the at least one signaling message, the abstraction of the at least one signaling message comprising a description of the signaling message based on the interpreted intent of the at least one signaling message; [[and]]

translate the abstraction of the at least one signaling message; and

transmit the translated abstraction of the at least one signaling message to the at least one gateway device for presentation to the remote terminal, thereby establishing the communications session and facilitating a media stream path without the server between the dumb terminal and the remote terminal using the IP packet based network.

114. **(Currently Amended)** The server ~~customer premises equipment device~~ of Claim 113, wherein the controller employs an Internetwork Packet Exchange / Sequenced Packet Exchange (IPX/SPX) transport protocol.

115. **(Currently Amended)** The server ~~customer premises equipment device~~ of Claim 113, wherein the remote terminal comprises a computer executing telephony software.

116. **(Currently Amended)** The server ~~customer premises equipment device~~ of Claim 113, wherein the controller is further operable to:

receive a plurality of first packets generated at the remote terminal for presentation to the dumb terminal;

translate the received first packets into voice information for presentation to a user of the dumb terminal;

receive voice activity from the user;

generate a plurality of second packets that represent the voice activity; and

transmit the generated second packets to the at least one gateway device for presentation to the remote terminal.

117. **(Currently Amended)** The server ~~customer premises equipment device~~ of Claim 113, wherein the network interface controller is further operable to receive an off-hook signal in response to a user indicating a desire to establish the communications session.

118. **(Cancelled)**

119. **(Currently Amended)** The server ~~customer premises equipment device~~ of Claim 113, wherein the at least one signaling message comprises an indication selected from the group consisting of:

a telephony off-hook event,

a telephony on-hook event,

a telephony button depressed event,

a telephony digit dialed event, and

a client registration event.

120. **(Cancelled)**

121. **(Cancelled)**

122. **(Cancelled)**

123. **(Cancelled)**

124. **(Cancelled)**

125. **(Cancelled)**